

5440-65 School Nurse

The holder is authorized to provide school health services in grades PK-12 and to collaborate with teachers and administrators to integrate health and wellness knowledge and skills throughout the school and curriculum.

In order to qualify for this endorsement the candidate shall demonstrate the following:

Knowledge Standards

Demonstrates knowledge in general nursing and school nursing concepts and skills delineated in current national professional nursing¹ and school nursing standards² and health concepts and skills delineated in *Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities* including:

Pediatric, community health, emergency, adult, and mental health nursing

Current state and federal laws, regulations, and procedures governing identification, referral, healthcare, privacy issues, placement, and accommodation of students

Learning theory as it applies to health behavior

Health promotion strategies for individuals, families, communities, and health risk factors, including the Centers for Disease Control's Priority Risk Behaviors³

Family, interpersonal relationships, cultural, psychological, sociological, emotional, and environmental factors that influence health behaviors

Family and group dynamics

Effective organization, management, communication, and leadership skills

The process and skills for problem solving, decision making, and conflict resolution

The Vital Results for personal development in *Vermont's Framework of Standards and Learning Opportunities*

Professional and ethical issues in general nursing and school nursing

The Vermont *Standards of Practice: School Health Services*

Purposes, elements, and requirements of the Coordinated School Health Program (CSHP) model

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Performance Standards

School nurses strengthen and facilitate the educational process by improving and protecting the health status of students and staff; identifying, assisting, overseeing, and collaborating with other school personnel in the removal or modification of health related barriers to the learning of individual students; and collaborating with other school personnel to promote health education and a healthy learning environment for students and staff. Specifically, the school nurse:

Provision of Health Services

Organizes, provides, and/or oversees the provision of health assessments for individual students and referrals for health management or treatment

Develops, provides and/or oversees direct health services and/or health counseling to assist students, families, and staff in making informed decisions on choices related to health

Develops, provides, and/or oversees implementation of student healthcare plans, health management protocols and policies for all students with health needs and recommends modifications to the school program

Interprets and/or oversees the interpretation of a student's health status to parents/guardians and school personnel

Identifies or assists in identification, refers, and follows through on child abuse and neglect as required by law

Identifies and refers students for psychosocial and substance abuse issues and evaluates interventions

Preventative Health

Maintains, evaluates, interprets, and/or oversees the review of individual student health records

Develops, implements, and/or oversees the implementation of procedures and protocols for the prevention and management of injuries and acute and chronic illness

Promotes, and assists in the control of communicable diseases through development and/or implementation of early detection and preventative immunization programs, surveillance and follow up of contagious diseases, and reporting, as appropriate, to the Vermont Health Department.

Provides health information to individuals, school-related groups, student classes, and community organizations

Collaboration with Other School and Community Personnel

Participates as the health professional member on a variety of teams, including the child education evaluation teams that develop Individual Education Plans (IEPs), 504 plans, educational support team (EST) recommendations, and other specialized plans for students

Acts as the case manager of 504 plans for students with health issues

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Coordinates and/or collaborates with other school and community personnel to ensure a safe and health promoting school environment and program for students and staff

Coordinates and/or collaborates with other school and community personnel to develop, support, implement and evaluate a Coordinated School Health Program (CSHP)

Serves as a resource to other teachers and administrators in health education and as a member of the health curriculum committee

Coordinates school health activities and serves as a liaison on health issues among home, school, and community

Acts as a resource person in promoting health careers

Develops protocols for, trains, and oversees those school personnel delegated to carrying out health service activities in accordance with Vermont *Standards of Practice: School Health Services*

Collaborates in the development of school policies concerning health issues and develops procedures concerning health issues in accordance with school policies

Additional Requirements

Baccalaureate or master's degree from a nursing program accredited by the National League for Nursing (NLN) or the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE)

A current license as a Registered Nurse (RN) in the state of Vermont

Current certificates in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and first aid

Four years of clinical nursing experience beyond nursing education

Completion of an educational orientation program provided through the Department of Education and based on the requirements for delivery of health services as defined in the Vermont *School Quality Standards* and the Vermont manual titled *Standards of Practice: School Health Services*

¹ American Nurse's Association (2001). *Standards of Clinical Nursing Practice* (2nd Ed.). Washington, DC: Author.

² Lordi, S. & Bradley, B. *Standards of professional school nursing practice: Applications in the field* (2000, National Association of School Nurses) and National Association of School Nurses Position Statement – *Professional school nurse roles and responsibilities: Education, certification, and licensure* (2000, Author).

³ U. S. Department of Health and Human Services (January, 2000). *Healthy People 2010* (Conference Edition in two volumes). Washington, DC: Author.